

**CLAIM AMENDMENTS**

1. (currently amended): An immunocompromised transgenic rodent which has the characteristics of expressing a fluorescent protein in all tissues except hair and erythrocytes while maintaining its immunocompromised phenotype,

wherein said rodent is obtained by first crossing a rodent that expresses said fluorescent protein by virtue of the presence of a transgenic expression system comprising a nucleotide sequence encoding a fluorescent protein operatively linked to a promoter that is active in all cells of said rodent which rodent is not immunocompromised with a rodent that does not express the fluorescent protein and is immunocompromised,

secondly crossing the offspring of said first crossing to obtain at least one male rodent and at least one female rodent that express said fluorescent protein and are immunocompromised;

thirdly crossing said male rodent with said female rodent to obtain at least one offspring that expresses said fluorescent protein and is immunocompromised;

fourth, crossing said offspring of said third crossing with a rodent that does not express said fluorescent protein and is immunocompromised to obtain rodents that have said characteristics; and optionally breeding the rodents obtained in said fourth crossing to obtain progeny thereof.

2. (original): The rodent of claim 1 which is a mouse.

3. (previously presented): The mouse of claim 2 wherein the immunocompromised rodent is a *nu/nu* mouse.

4-18. (canceled)

19. (original; withdrawn): A method of propagating cells or tissue that express a first fluorescent protein comprising isolating tissues from the rodent of claim 1 and transplanting them into another animal or embryo.

20. (original; withdrawn): The method of claim 19 further comprising serial re-isolation and re-transplantation of the tissues into another animal or embryo.

21. (new): The rodent of claim 1 wherein the promoter is the  $\beta$  actin promoter.